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COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
Forty-first session
10-21 March 1997
Agenda item 3 (c)

FOLLOW-UP TO THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN:
IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES AND ACTION
IN THE CRITICAL AREAS OF CONCERN

Bangladesh*, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic and Philippines:
draft resolution

Violence against women migrant workers

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Bearing in mind the Charter of the United Nations, which reaffirms faith in human rights and fundamental freedoms, in the dignity and worth of the human person, and in the equal rights of women and men,

Reaffirming the principles set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[2]

Reaffirming also General Assembly resolutions 47/96 of 16 December 1992, 48/110 of 20 December 1993, 49/165 of 23 December 1994, 50/168 of 22 December 1995 and 51/65 of 12 December 1996 and Commission on the Status of Women resolutions 38/7 of 18 March 1994, 39/7 of 31 March 1995 and 40/6 of

* In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

[1] General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

[2] General Assembly resolution 34/180.

22 March 1996, as well as the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women adopted by the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session,[1]

Recalling the conclusions and recommendations made by recent international conferences, including the World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna in June 1993, the International Conference on Population and Development, held in Cairo in September 1994, the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen in March 1995, and the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing in September 1995, on the promotion and protection of the rights and fundamental freedoms of women, in particular women migrant workers,

Acknowledging the valuable contribution made by concerned intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to the promotion and protection of the rights and fundamental freedoms of women migrant workers,

Noting the large numbers of women from developing countries and from some countries with economies in transition who continue to venture forth to more affluent countries in search of a living for themselves and their families, as a consequence of poverty, unemployment and other socio-economic conditions,

Recognizing that it is the duty of sending countries to protect and promote the interests of their citizens who seek or receive employment in other countries, to provide them with appropriate training/education and to apprise them of their rights and obligations in the countries of employment,

Aware of the moral obligations of receiving or host countries to ensure the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all persons within their boundaries, including women migrant workers, who are doubly vulnerable because of their gender and their being foreigners,

Noting the measures adopted by some receiving States to alleviate the plight of women migrant workers residing within their areas of jurisdiction,

Noting with concern, however, the continuing reports of grave abuses and acts of violence committed against women migrant workers by some of their employers in some host countries,

Stressing that acts of violence directed against women impair or nullify women's enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recalling the decision of the Commission at its fortieth session to consider as part of its work programme for 1998 the issues of women's human rights, violence against women, women in armed conflicts, and the girl child, in line with the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action,

1. Welcomes the convening of the United Nations Expert Group meeting on Violence against Women Migrant Workers in Manila, from 27 to 31 May 1996;

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[1] General Assembly resolution 48/104.

2. Decides to consider the report of the Expert Group Meeting,[4] as well as the reports/recommendations of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on Violence Women, the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, including its Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, concerned agencies and bodies of the United Nations system and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations on the issue of violence against women migrant workers, at its forty-second session, in 1998, and to submit its report and recommendations thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session.

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[4] A/51/325, annex.